United Nations CRPD/C/SR.233

Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

Distr.: General
5 April 2016

Original: English

Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

Fifteenth session

Summary record (partial)* of the of the 233rd meeting
Held at the Palais Wilson, Geneva, on Tuesday, 29 March 2016, at 10 a.m.

Chair: Ms. Cisternas Reyes

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* No summary record was prepared for the rest of the meeting.

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The meeting was called to order at 10 a.m.

Opening of the session

1. **The Chair** declared open the fifteenth session of the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

Opening statement by the representative of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

2. **Mr. Nowosad** (Chief, Groups in Focus Section, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)), highlighting the unprecedented participation of civil society, including organizations of persons with disabilities, in the negotiation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, said that several of the Goals under the Agenda represented a major step forward towards achieving equal rights for persons with disabilities. The Convention should be considered the key guiding document to implement the Goals.

3. The Commission for Social Development had recently set up an annual multi-stakeholder panel to share good practices and monitor progress on the implementation of the Goals relating to persons with disabilities. The Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators had agreed that the indicators accompanying the Goals should be inclusive of disability; accordingly, 11 indicators on disability would be submitted to the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly for adoption.

4. The ninth Conference of States parties to the Convention would be held from 14 to 16 June 2016 in New York on the theme "Implementing the 2030 development agenda for all persons with disabilities: Leaving no one behind". Subthemes would be the elimination of poverty and inequality, the promotion of the rights of persons with mental and intellectual disabilities, enhanced access to information and technology and inclusive development, and the tenth anniversary of the Convention. In addition, nine new Committee members would be elected at the Conference and funds were available to support the organization of side events.

5. The General Assembly had adopted a resolution on making the United Nations more accessible for persons with disabilities (resolution 70/170). It had invited the President of the General Assembly to convene a high-level panel in late 2016 to mark the tenth anniversary of the Convention with a view to promoting universal ratification, had urged Member States to support the disaggregation of data by disability, had requested the Secretary-General to submit a report on the situation of women and girls with disabilities and had invited the Chair of the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities to engage in an annual dialogue with the General Assembly.

6. The General Assembly had also adopted a resolution on persons with albinism (resolution 70/229), which expressed concern at their current situation, encouraged Member States to continue to uphold the rights of those persons and requested the Secretary-General to present a comprehensive report together with recommendations on the social development challenges of persons with albinism, taking into account the specific needs of women and children.

7. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) had conducted a study on the rights of persons with disabilities in situations of risk and humanitarian emergencies, which emphasized the need to involve persons with disabilities in the design, implementation, supervision and evaluation of emergency programmes; the report had been presented to the Human Rights Council. Recalling that the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women was drafting a general comment on

disaster risk reduction and climate change, he said that that presented a good opportunity to create synergies between that Committee and the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

8. The Office continued to support the Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities and the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of human rights by persons with albinism in the fulfilment of their mandates. It was also involved in the preparation of the World Humanitarian Summit to be held in Istanbul in May 2016, which offered the opportunity not only to raise awareness of the challenges faced by persons with disabilities but also to take steps towards change through efforts to promote funding and the acceptance of internationally agreed principles and guidelines. The Office had engaged in broad consultations with Member States, United Nations agencies and civil society organizations during the planning of the Social Forum, to be held in Geneva in October 2016, which would focus on the promotion and equal enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by persons with disabilities.

9. The Division of Conference Management in Geneva and the secretariat of the Committee had been working with the World Association of Sign Language Interpreters to improve the provision of sign language interpretation at the Committee's meetings. As of mid-2016, all public meetings of human rights treaty bodies would be webcast as part of a one-year trial. Longer-term funding was being sought to make webcasting a permanent service and thereby increase the accessibility and visibility of all the treaty bodies.

10. Finally, he said that the number of ratifications of the Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons Who Are Blind, Visually Impaired or Otherwise Print Disabled now stood at 15, only 5 short of the number needed for entry into force.

Report of the Chairperson on activities undertaken between the fourteenth and fifteenth sessions of the Committee

11. **The Chair** said that the first event of the programme for the tenth anniversary of the Convention would be held on 19 April 2016 and that regional events were planned in the United States of America, Chile, Ethiopia, and possibly in Asia. A high-level meeting would be held with Member States that had not yet ratified the Convention during the Conference of States parties in June 2016. A side event would also be held at that time to discuss overlap between the Convention and the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families. The Committee was working with the communications section of OHCHR on the visual aspects and messaging of the anniversary celebrations. Welcoming the adoption of the draft General Assembly resolution on the Convention and its Optional Protocol (A/C.3/70/L.25/Rev.1), she noted that the draft resolution also requested the Secretary-General to allocate sufficient funds so that OHCHR could adequately support the Committee and disability-related activities.

12. Under its programme of work for 2016, the Committee would consider 2.15 State party reports per week of meetings. The Committee would have to continue improving its productivity in order to achieve the target under resolution 68/268 of 2.5 reports per week. Eight new communications had been registered in 2015, and it was hoped to adopt views in four cases during the course of 2016. During the inter-sessional period, the Committee had continued its work in a number of areas, including draft general comments on articles 6 and 24, the simplified reporting procedure, guidelines on the participation of national human rights institutions, the inquiry procedure, a day of general discussion on article 19 and the preparation of side events to be held during the next Conference of States parties.

13. She stressed the importance of maintaining a geographic and gender balance when electing new members and looked forward to the Committee's involvement in future international meetings and events.

Submission of reports by parties to the Convention under article 35

14. **Ms. Harvey** (Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)) said that, since the Committee's fourteenth session, initial reports had been received from Albania, Bahrain, Djibouti, Estonia, India, Kuwait, Myanmar and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela. In total, 94 reports had been received, 61 of which had yet to be considered.

Adoption of the agenda (CRPD/C/15/1)

Organizational matters

15. **The Chair** drew attention to the provisional agenda and the tentative programme of work, which were contained in document CRPD/C/15/1 and the annex thereto.

16. *The agenda and the programme of work were adopted.*

17. **Ms. Devandas Aguilar** (Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities) said that she had carried out official visits to Paraguay and the Republic of Moldova. Her findings following the visit to the Republic of Moldova had been shared with the Committee in its pre-sessional working group. She had also published two thematic reports, one on the right of persons with disabilities to participate in decision-making (A/HRC/31/62) and the other on the right of persons with disabilities to social protection (A/70/297). In drafting both reports she had worked closely with States and civil society organizations and had received record numbers of contributions, which testified to the widespread interest in supporting her mandate.

18. At the thirty-first session of the Human Rights Council she had taken part in the annual interactive debate on the rights of persons with disabilities, focusing on article 11 of the Convention. A report on that subject had been drafted by OHCHR. She was working with the Committee to ensure that the outcome documents from the World Humanitarian Summit 2016 made clear reference to humanitarian responses which were inclusive and accessible to persons with disabilities and contained tangible recommendations in that regard. She was also involved in the work of a Commission for Social Development panel, which focused on how the Commission would monitor the rights of persons with disabilities and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals in the future. The panel advocated for broader cooperation within the United Nations system, including the Committee and the relevant specialized agencies, in reporting on and monitoring actions to promote the rights of persons with disabilities. Deeper cooperation in that field would strengthen the Commission's influence on ECOSOC's work in implementing the Goals. The General Assembly had pointed out that the United Nations Statistical Division had a fundamental role to play in ensuring that disaggregated data were made available for implementation purposes. An appeal from the Committee for the better disaggregation of statistical information, which was essential to inform policies addressing persons with disabilities, would be welcome.

19. She had worked closely with the World Bank on the issues of poverty reduction and data compilation and had also cooperated with other mandate holders, United Nations agencies and committees, notably with the Special Rapporteur on the right to health and the Working Group on the issue of discrimination against women in law and in practice, on objectives such as reducing poverty among persons with disabilities. References to persons with disabilities were becoming more frequent in the reports of other mandate holders and she had provided guidance on how to formulate such references where appropriate.

20. In cooperation with the Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture, efforts were being made to bring the latter's case law into line with the Convention. Similar efforts were required in regard to the other treaty monitoring bodies. On the occasion of the

International Day of Persons with Disabilities, 16 of the United Nations agencies present in Geneva, together with civil society partners, had come together to embrace diversity. That was an important achievement and one which should be repeated in the future. She was coordinating her work with that of the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of human rights by persons with albinism and suggested that the Independent Expert should be invited to address the Committee. She would also join with other mandate holders and OHCHR to call for universal ratification of the Convention on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of its adoption.

21. **Ms. Lange** (Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)), speaking also on behalf of the Inter-Agency Support Group on the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (IASG), said that the Group was preparing a charter and action plan to promote the inclusion of persons with disabilities in humanitarian responses, which would contain commitments and guidelines applicable to all stakeholders, including States, United Nations agencies and civil society. The Group's sub-working group on women and girls with disabilities had carried out various activities to address cross-cutting gender and disability issues, including gender-mainstreaming projects.

22. Support was provided for OHCHR policy formulation and for the development of improved statistical tools for disaggregated data collection. The Group had created an e-learning course on the subject of a human rights approach to disability and had provided training on the same issue. The Group would be promoting universal ratification of the Convention on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of its adoption and intended to harness implementation of the Convention in support of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The Committee was invited to attend the Group's annual meeting in Istanbul in 2016.

23. **Mr. Chavez** (Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)) said that, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 28/4 (A/HRC/RES/28/4), OHCHR had been mandated to prepare a study on the rights of persons with disabilities in situations of risk and humanitarian emergencies. The study, drafted with valuable substantive input from the Committee, had been welcomed by the Council and published on its website. Two more reports, on equality and non-discrimination and on the right to justice, respectively, would follow in 2016 and 2017. The participation of the Chairperson would be welcomed at the 2016 Social Forum, to be held in October. OHCHR was also planning to begin a project to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, to be carried out over the coming four years. The project would focus on developing human rights indicators for the Convention, drafting guidelines for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and the Convention and designing training materials on the same subject. A wide-ranging consultation would be carried out as part of the project and any input from the Committee would be welcome.

24. The High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development was designed to provide leadership and guidance on the implementation and monitoring of the 2030 Agenda. It would be useful if the Committee could highlight the obligations arising from article 43 of the Convention when considering the reports of States parties. Following a request from the General Assembly, a comprehensive report on accessibility in the United Nations system was being prepared. Although the Secretary of the Committee had already contributed to the report, independent submissions from individual Committee members would also be welcome.

25. **The Chair** said that she looked forward to continued fruitful cooperation between the Committee and the OHCHR team responsible for human rights and disability issues.

26. **Ms. Blomberg** (United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women)) noted that 2015 had been a landmark year for women's issues,

marking the twentieth anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, the fifteenth anniversary of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on women and peace and security, the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women general recommendation No. 18 on disabled women. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development likewise recognized the importance of gender equality, including specifically for women with disabilities, in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

27. UN-Women mainstreamed disability and the gender perspective in all its coordination and operational work and promoted the participation and leadership of women and girls with disabilities in both formal and informal settings, for example through its work with the Commission for Social Development and the Conference of States parties to the Convention and preparations for the forthcoming Third United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Development (Habitat III). It had worked with other entities to create the Inter-Agency Support Group on the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and collaborated with governments, civil society and United Nations system partners to promote economic and political empowerment for women, end violence against women and promote the gender perspective in peace and security and humanitarian initiatives.

28. In the context of UN-Women's Safe Cities Global Initiative, local councils in Fiji had been encouraged to allocate funds for accessible sanitary facilities in municipal markets and for training in gender and disability issues. Women with disabilities were included in training provided by UN-Women on violence, gender and disability. In the area of peace and security and humanitarian action, in Colombia, in accordance with the results of the Human Needs Overview, disaggregated indicators were being developed to identify the needs of specific populations, including persons with disabilities. In India UN-Women had supported efforts to track budget allocations for gender equality and more specifically women and girls with disabilities. In the area of violence against women, in Zimbabwe UN-Women had supported the creation of advisory groups on access to justice for women, some members of which were women with disabilities. The UN-Women Fund for Gender Equality and the United Nations Trust Fund to End Violence against Women had helped fund a first workshop in Cabo Verde on the sexual and reproductive health of women with disabilities. The UN-Women representative in Pakistan was a woman with a disability.

29. Given the importance of reliable data for the achievement of gender equality, UN-Women was committed to promoting the production of reliable gender-disaggregated statistics to facilitate the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and the empowerment of all women and girls, including those with disabilities.

30. **The Chair** thanked UN-Women for its support and said that she looked forward to its contribution to the Committee's general comment No. 3 on article 6 of the Convention, on women and girls with disabilities.

31. **Ms. Viviani** (United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)) said that UNICEF was proud of its collaboration with the Committee and continued to strengthen the disability rights component of its activities as it implemented the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. In 2015 UNICEF country offices had promoted the rights of children with disabilities in such areas as education, health and social protection.

32. Education was a particularly important focus. Sustainable Development Goal 4 on quality education specifically referred to persons with disabilities and global indicator 4.a.1 (d) specifically required reporting on adapted infrastructure and materials for students with disabilities. In that context she noted that the previous week UNICEF had released a model survey developed jointly with the Washington Group to help countries monitor the progress

made by children with disabilities throughout the period of implementation of the 2030 Agenda. UNICEF was also working with partners to systematically mainstream the needs of children with disabilities, who faced increased risks during emergencies. Accessibility adjustments had for example been made to emergency school kits and practical guidance for dealing with children with disabilities was included with the kits.

33. UNICEF itself was endeavouring to become a more inclusive workplace for persons with disabilities. A surcharge on official travel was being used to fund renovations to make premises more accessible. UNICEF would continue to contribute to the work of the Committee, including during the day of general discussion on article 19, on living independently and being included in the community.

34. **The Chair** noted UNICEF's long-standing contribution to the work of the Committee as well as that of the Committee on the Rights of the Child.

35. **Ms. Loon** (World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)) said that 16 countries had thus far ratified the Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons Who Are Blind, Visually Impaired, or Otherwise Print Disabled; only 4 more ratifications were needed for the Treaty to enter into force, a target that should be reached by the summer of 2016. She stressed the importance of the creation of national frameworks to facilitate access to published works as well as mechanisms to facilitate the international sharing of accessible works. With regard to practical implementation measures, she noted the joint efforts of WIPO and the Committee secretariat, together with other stakeholders, including Member States, libraries, concerned institutions and publishers of works for the blind, to promote awareness of the Convention and the implementation of the Marrakesh Treaty. She looked forward to further cooperation with the Committee.

36. **The Chair** welcomed the high number of ratifications of the Marrakesh Treaty achieved in a relatively short period of time and noted that the Committee's concluding observations often called on States parties to ratify that Treaty.

37. **Ms. Cieza** (World Health Organization (WHO)) said that the WHO disability action plan had three goals: improving access to health services for persons with disabilities; strengthening rehabilitation, assistive technology and community-based rehabilitation; and strengthening the collection of internationally comparable data. WHO was preparing guidance documents for Member States on how to implement disability-inclusive public health care and how to ensure disability-inclusive universal health coverage. A document was also being finalized on rehabilitation guidelines that stressed that rehabilitation must be included in health coverage and made universal. A road-map document was being drafted for rehabilitation stakeholders for the next 15 years and a list of priority assistive products, similar to the list of essential medicines adopted in many countries, had just been finalized. WHO provided support to Member States in the implementation of community-based rehabilitation and would take advantage of the Second World Congress on Community-Based Rehabilitation, in September 2016, to reflect on the implementation of the Convention and the Sustainable Development Goals.

38. With regard to the collection of data, WHO was implementing its model disability study in many countries, for example Chile, Sri Lanka, the Philippines and Panama. The objective was to collect information on disabilities not only as a health issue but also in the context of the relationship between individuals and their environment. WHO cooperated in the collection of data with other United Nations agencies including the United Nations Statistical Commission as a member of the Inter-Agency Support Group and in the context of the United Nations Partnership to Promote the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNRPD). Lastly, she noted the contribution of WHO specialists in mental health to Member States' efforts to implement the Convention for persons with psychosocial disabilities.

39. **The Chair** said that the Committee had taken note of WHO's efforts in the areas of rehabilitation and data collection and looked forward to continued cooperation.

40. **Ms. Shorr** (International Telecommunication Union (ITU)) said that accessible information and communication technologies (ICTs) were the foundation for independent living, education and employment for persons with disabilities. The work of ITU was related mainly to article 9 of the Convention, on accessibility. Making ICT accessibility a reality required both technical standards and a legislative and regulatory framework. ITU had ratified the first international accessibility standard for the blind in 1994 and had developed a telecommunications accessibility checklist for the development of technical standards. Guidelines on accessibility for older persons and persons with disabilities had been adopted. ITU had collaborated with other bodies, including the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), on a joint policy statement on standardization and accessibility. In 2015 guidelines on accessible meetings that provided for the use of mechanisms such as captioning and sign language had been adopted. ITU also had an accessibility policy to make its facilities and events more accessible.

41. In the area of legal frameworks, ITU had developed a report on a model accessibility policy to help countries implement article 9 rights. That policy included how to modify legislation, guidelines on accessible facilities and communications and the need to ensure public procurement of accessible technology as an example and incentive for private market providers. The report was available in numerous languages and formats including e-book and could be found online. Training was available for Member States and stakeholders and regional events had been organized in the Arab countries, the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) and in Europe to promote accessible ICTs. In addition, on 2 May 2016, in Geneva, an entire day of the World Summit on the Information Society would be devoted to ICT accessibility, including a session on policies and standards for public procurement of ICTs. A meeting on accessible ICTs was envisaged for Africa and the third accessible Americas event would be held in Mexico City on 29-30 November 2016. She encouraged the Committee to disseminate information on the ITU model accessibility policy.

42. **The Chair** agreed that public procurement of accessible technology was important. She said that information on the regional meetings on accessible ICTs should be provided to the secretariat for distribution to Committee members as well as to Member States.

43. **Mr. Chowdhury** (International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR)) said that country reports arising out of efforts to implement the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, adopted the previous year, had highlighted the particular vulnerability of persons with disabilities in disaster situations. The contribution they could make to building resilient societies and preparing for and responding to disasters was often overlooked. With a view to obtaining precise data on the impact of disasters on persons with disabilities, in October 2013 the first ever survey of persons living with disabilities had been undertaken. Some 5,700 people from 130 countries had participated, providing a portrait of a resilient group ready to participate but rarely consulted about disaster management. Only 20 per cent had said that they would be able to evacuate easily in the event of a disaster, most could do so only with great difficulty, and 6 per cent not at all.

44. The Sendai Framework marked a paradigm shift in attitudes and recognized that governments must include persons with disabilities in disaster management planning, including early warning systems, responses to all types of hazards and rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts. Disaster reduction plans and normative frameworks must include a disability perspective while also respecting the principle of universal design.

45. The Sendai Framework also took account of the need to protect human rights in the context of disaster reduction and response. The prevention and reduction of disaster risk constituted a means to protect human rights to the extent that such efforts protected people's lives and livelihood. He highlighted the relevance of article 11 of the Convention, on situations of risk and humanitarian emergencies, for the implementation of the Sendai Framework and the adoption of appropriate measures to enhance accountability in disaster risk management. The Committee's concluding observations could also serve as a useful tool for the promotion of the Framework.

46. **Ms. Almeida** (International Disability Alliance (IDA)) said that the International Federation for Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus (IFSBH) and the African Disability Forum (ADF) had recently joined the International Disability Alliance. The Alliance and the International Disability and Development Consortium (IDDC) had jointly prepared a guide and toolkit on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development from a disability perspective, and had held webinars and workshops on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for organizations of persons with disabilities in several countries that were to be the subject of review by the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development. In October 2015, the Alliance had held a regional conference in São Paulo, leading to the adoption of a declaration on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in line with the Convention. In the same month, the Alliance had carried out a mission to Peru to review implementation of the Committee's 2012 concluding observations.

47. The Alliance had taken part in an international workshop held in November 2015 in Seoul on the follow-up to the implementation of the Convention and the effectiveness of the Committee's recommendations. Furthermore, the Alliance was currently working to encourage organizations of persons with disabilities to take part in the Social Forum and had provided them with information on nominations for membership of the Committee, focusing in particular on women with disabilities as potential candidates. Efforts were continuing to mainstream the standards of the Convention and facilitate the participation of organizations of persons with disabilities in the work of the treaty bodies.

48. The February 2016 session of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women had been attended by an unprecedented number of women with disabilities from across the world, resulting in a high number of recommendations from the Committee that explicitly referred to women and girls with disabilities, including one on ensuring that disability was a prohibited ground of discrimination in terms of the right to vote. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights had recently adopted general comments Nos. 22, on the right to sexual and reproductive health, and 23, on the right to just and favourable conditions of work, both of which highlighted the rights of persons with disabilities.

49. **Ms. Minkowitz** (Centre for the Human Rights of Users and Survivors of Psychiatry (CHRUSP)) said that the Centre for the Human Rights of Users and Survivors of Psychiatry had conducted a campaign to highlight civil society support for the absolute prohibition of involuntary commitment and forced treatment. A large number of testimonials submitted by survivors of psychiatry, clinicians, academics and organizations working in the field had been posted online and provided compelling evidence that there was a need for the Committee to continue to fight for equal rights for persons with psychosocial disabilities. Situations of involuntary commitment and forced treatment constituted violations of the Convention and must be addressed as part of the work of monitoring the Sustainable Development Goals. The campaign would focus on reaching out to Asia and Africa in search of contributions and dialogue on barriers to participation.

50. **Ms. Lee** (International Disability and Development Consortium (IDDC)) said that the International Disability and Development Consortium had been advocating the

inclusion of persons with disabilities in the Sustainable Development Goals and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and working to ensure that the global indicator framework developed by the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators contained sufficient explicit references to persons with disabilities. The Consortium continued to engage with United Nations human rights mechanisms to influence standard setting. Furthermore, the Consortium was monitoring implementation of the Convention in all the European Union's external action activities and was encouraging that body to champion the rights of persons with disabilities at the international level through an inclusive 2030 Agenda. Partnerships with and networks of organizations of persons with disabilities in developing countries had been promoted to boost sustainable development that was in line with the Convention. Support had been provided to cross-disability movements seeking to ensure the full participation of all persons with disabilities and the involvement of their organizations in disability rights monitoring, focusing on the Convention and the Sustainable Development Goals.

51. Strategy meetings would be organized with the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) and the Global Fund on the inclusion of disability in regional and international responses to the HIV/AIDS pandemic. Work was ongoing to promote article 25 of the Convention and objective 1 of the World Health Organization (WHO) global disability action plan 2014-2021 relating to the improvement of access to health services for persons with disabilities. The Consortium had hosted a side event at the Sixty-eighth World Health Assembly on the inclusion of disability in Sustainable Development Goal 3, would continue to participate in that forum and was planning a survey of organizations of persons with disabilities in order to identify good inclusive health practices.

52. The Consortium welcomed Sustainable Development Goal 4 and the Education 2030 Framework for Action, continued to promote inclusive education and intended to influence education financing and the Education for All Global Monitoring Report. Work was ongoing to promote awareness and implementation of the Convention at the local level, as well as the use of Convention-compliant language in the development of new materials on community-based rehabilitation and the Convention.

The discussion covered in the summary record ended at 12.15 p.m.